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THE

Borough of Daventry.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1938.

MAY, 1939.

Walter Adams, Printer, Sheaf Street, Daventry.

Glenariff House,
West Haddon,
Rugby,
May 31st, 1939.

TO THE MAYOR
AND
MEMBERS OF THE
DAVENTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present for your consideration my Annual Report dealing with the Sanitary conditions and the Health of the Borough during the year ending, December 31st, 1938.

Area.

The area of the Borough is 3,633 acres.

Population.

The population of the Borough by the Census of 1931 was 3,608; Males 1,783, Females 1,825. The population by the Census of 1921 was 3,518, so that during the ten years the Borough increased by 90 persons.

The Registrar General estimates that the population of the Borough in 1938 was 3,703, so I am assuming that these figures are correct for the working out of the statistics of this Annual Report.

Number of Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year 1938, according to the rate books was 1,072.

Number of Families or Separate Occupiers.

The number of families or separate occupiers, according to the Census of 1931, was 980, by that of 1921 it was 913, showing an increase of 67 in the ten years.

Rateable Value.

The rateable value of the Borough at the end of the year 1938, was £22,694, showing an increase of £201 in the twelve months.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate.

The sum represented by a penny rate is estimated to produce £86.

Birth Rate.

The number of living Births registered in the Town during the year was 43 ; Males 21, Females 22 : of these four males and one female were illegitimate.

The Birth Rate for the year is therefore 11.61 per 1,000 living, which is 3.49 below the provisional figures for England and Wales for the year 1938.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years.

1934	Males	25	Females	35	Birth Rate	16.73
1935	,,	23	,,	27	,,	13.92
1936	,,	26	,,	30	,,	15.20
1937	,,	33	,,	22	,,	14.98
1938	,,	21	,,	22	,,	11.61

One legitimate male still-birth was registered in the Borough during the year.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths registered in the Town was 39 ; Males 24, Females 15 ; this gives a death-rate of 10.53 per 1,000 for the year, and is 1.07 below the provisional figures for England and Wales for the year 1938.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years.

1934	Males	25	Females	24	Death Rate	13.66
1935	,,	14	,,	22	,,	10.02
1936	,,	23	,,	18	,,	11.12
1937	,,	39	,,	24	,,	17.16
1938	,,	24	,,	15	,,	10.53

Infant Mortality.

There were three deaths of Infants under one year, all Males, one of these Infants was illegitimate.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years.

1934	...	83.33	per	1,000	births
1935	...	00.00	..	..	..
1936	...	17.85	..	..	..
1937	...	18.18	..	..	..
1938	...	69.76	..	..	..

Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases.

The death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 1.35 per 1,000 ; and from Respiratory Diseases it was 0.54 per 1,000.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years.

1934	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.00	Respiratory Diseases		1.39
1935	..	..	0.55	..	..	0.27
1936	..	..	0.00	..	..	0.80
1937	..	..	1.08	..	..	0.27
1938	..	..	1.35	..	..	0.54

Mortality.

The Mortality from different causes during the year 1938, according to the return made to me by the Registrar-General, was as follows :—

	Males	Females
Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	1
Other Tuberculosis	0	1
Cancer	4	2
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	0	1
Heart Disease	5	4
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	1
Bronchitis	1	0
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	0
Other Liver Diseases	0	1
Nephritis	3	0
Congenital Causes	3	0
Other Defined Diseases	1	2
Total	24	15

The figures and details regarding the deaths on which these statistics are framed were not received by me from the Registrar-General, per the County M.O.H. till May 18th, and those regarding the births, not till May 29th ; this report has now to go to the Printers, so it will be quite the end of June before the copies can be sent to the Ministry of Health.

Nursing.

There is a Child Welfare Centre in the Town. this and the Health Visiting are under the supervision of the County Council. The District Nursing arrangements, which are maintained by voluntary contributions, are managed by a Local Committee; this Committee is affiliated to the Northampton County Nursing Association.

Infectious Sickness.

During the year 1938, thirteen cases of Infectious Sickness were notified to me as occurring in the Borough. a small increase as compared with the year 1937. In the following table are the particulars of all the cases which have been reported to me during the last five years, and they show what a healthy Town Daventry is. as far as infectious diseases are concerned.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Scarlet Fever	12	9	5	2	1
Diphtheria...	1	1	2	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	1	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	4	2	4	7
Other Tuberculosis ...	0	1	0	1	1
Pneumonia	0	1	3	2	2
Chicken Pox	4	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	1	2	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	2	1	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	1	0
Totals ...	19	20	14	11	13

There was only one case of Scarlet Fever, the infection, in my opinion, being caught outside the Borough, the patient was removed to Staverton Isolation Hospital and recovered.

The Town was free from Diphtheria during 1938, this being the second successive year of that being the case.

No case of Small Pox, Enteric Fever nor Ophthalmia Neonatorum occurred in the Borough during the year.

In all cases of the more serious forms of Infectious Sickness. the homes are immediately visited, and enquiries made to try, if possible, to establish the source of infection, the drains, etc., are examined, and the water and milk supply enquired into; the houses are thoroughly disinfected and every step taken to prevent any spread of the disease.

The notification of Tuberculosis in the Town is efficient, and no action or proceedings were necessary for wilful neglect. There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, this disease in any particular part of the Borough. Special attention is always paid to Tubercular cases, not only on behalf of the sufferers themselves but also for the sake of the other members of the families.

The following are the particulars as required by the Ministry of Health :

	New Cases				*Deaths*			
Age	Pulmonary		Non. Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non. Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
45	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	2	1	0	4	1	0	1

I would strongly urge any persons who have doubts about the condition of their chests to at once seek medical advice, as there is no doubt that the earlier cases of Tuberculosis are moved to a Sanitorium, the more hopeful is their ultimate recovery.

No special arrangements have been made for Bacteriological examinations, and I hardly think this is necessary, as when required, these can be carried out by the Pathologist at the General Hospital, Northampton.

Isolation Hospital.

The arrangements for the reception of infectious patients at the Staverton Isolation Hospital were quite satisfactory during the year, as I have already mentioned, only one case had to be sent there, and she recovered.

During the last five years the following cases were removed from the Borough to the Staverton Isolation Hospital for treatment.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Scarlet Fever	11	9	5	2	1
Diphtheria	0	1	2	0	0

On April 1st, the new Board, known as the Western Northamptonshire Joint Hospital Board took over the management of this Hospital from the Daventry Rural District Council, the Board is composed of representatives from Brackley and Daventry Boroughs, and from the Rural Districts of Brackley, Daventry, Northampton and Towcester. Your Council appoints two of its members on this Hospital Board.

For non-infectious sickness, the Borough is within easy distance of the General Hospital, Northampton, or the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby, and for Tuberculosis cases there is the Sanatorium at Rushden, under the Northamptonshire County Council.

Ambulance.

The Borough has its own Ambulance for the removal of serious illness or accidents to one of the General Hospitals in Northampton or Rugby, this Ambulance was a new one, bought during the year; for the removal of Infectious cases there is the Ambulance at Staverton Isolation Hospital, which is always available on very short notice.

Schools.

These are all in a very satisfactory state, and at no time during the year had I to advise the closing of a school on account of Infectious illness.

Vaccination.

Little Vaccination has been done in the Borough during the twelve months, and none under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Industry.

The chief trade of the Town is Boot and Shoe Manufacturing; this gives employment to many hundreds: and doubtless the British Broadcasting Corporation's Empire Transmitting Stations on Borough Hill also find some work for the inhabitants. There is also a large number of Agricultural labourers working in the surrounding

neighbourhood who reside in the Town. There has been some unemployment during the year, and there were also a number of others in the Borough who were on short time, but on the whole I do not think there has been so much unemployment as in the preceding years.

Houses.

The following are the general details regarding the Housing question for the year 1938, as asked for by the Ministry of Health :

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year* :—

(1) (*a*)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	327
(*b*)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ...	381
(2) (*a*)	Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	143
(*b*)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ...	18
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	54

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices* :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	36

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year* :—

A—	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 16

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(*a*) By Owners 11

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... Nil

B— Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... 67

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(*a*) By Owners 67

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... Nil

C— Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 5

D— Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, tenements or room having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

Housing Act, 1935—Part IV. Overcrowding.

A (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 13

	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	13
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	88
B		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	8
C	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	6
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	42
D		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	Nil
E		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

Continual inspections of the houses in the Town were made by the Sanitary Inspector and myself during the year, these houses are in a very different condition from what they were a few years ago ; the chief work was pressing forward the repairs and reconditioning of many that could be put into proper repair, this, although slow work, and involving many visits, was fairly successful when taken as a whole.

The following are the number of houses already ordered for demolition or otherwise dealt with.

First Year's Plan	36 Houses
Dealt with under Section 19	2 Houses
Second Year's Plan	27 Houses
Dealt with under Section 19	1 House
Third Year's Plan	16 Houses
Dealt with under Section 19	4 Houses
Fourth Year's Plan under 1936 Act	5 Houses

The Water Supply of the houses is from the Town Supply, and is quite accessible in nearly all cases ; the sanitary accommodation is fairly satisfactory, and the drainage passes into the sewers of the Town ; refuse and ashes are collected at regular intervals.

Nineteen new houses have been completed during the year, and more are in course of being built ; the following are the numbers that have been erected during the past eight years.

In 1931...	12
In 1932...	16
In 1933...	18
In 1934...	8
In 1935...	32
In 1936...	23
In 1937...	42
In 1938...	19

Fifteen of these latter houses were built by private enterprise.

Overcrowding.

A good deal of attention was paid to this subject during the year. Of the eleven cases at the beginning of 1938, six were abated, but eight new cases occurred owing to children reaching the age of 10 years of age, and so becoming adults under the Act, and also to babies being born into the families, these changes left thirteen cases to be seen after at the end of the year. It is proposed to build some of the larger type of houses for the worst of these cases, and more smaller houses can be built for the others.

During the year the inspection of houses revealed that three were infected with bugs—Council Houses 0, other Houses 3. These were disinfected by the Local Authority, Sulphur being used for the purpose with success.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the Town is quite satisfactory, all the sewage being carried to the Sewage Works and Farm for treatment. No river pollution can take place as there are only two small brooks near the Town, and these find their way into the Reservoir belonging to the Grand Union Canal.

The following is work done under this head during the last three years :

	1936	1937	1938
New Drains Constructed	25	48	15
Drains Repaired	13	7	16
Drains Relaid	0	3	1
Drains unblocked or Cleaned	15	14	19
Drains Examined and Tested	42	78	38
Manholes Built	31	54	25

Closet Accommodation.

There are water closets for all the houses except a few solitary ones outside the Town, some of these have no flushing apparatus,

to this insanitary arrangement I have on many occasions referred, and urged that for the health of the Town it should be altered. Now with the slum clearance, and already over 80 houses condemned for demolition, there will be a great improvement in this matter, and I feel certain it will tend to improve the health of Daventry. The following is the work carried out under this head during the last three years :

	1936	1937	1938
Water-closets—Limewashed	87	65	78
Water-closets—New Flushing Apparatus Fixed	37	58	31
Water-closets—Flushing Apparatus Repaired ...	17	12	31
Water-closets—New Pans Fixed	15	16	18
Water-closets—Unblocked and Repairs	21	11	19
Water-closets—Built	37	63	30

Scavenging.

The Scavenging of the Town is carried out by the Corporation : all the house refuse and ashes are collected once a week and removed to an old brickyard off the London Road.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, these are frequently visited, they are both kept clean and are well conducted.

Sanitary Work.

A considerable amount of Sanitary Work was carried out in various parts of the Town. The following table gives some particulars of the work done during the year, and for comparison, that done in the previous two years :

	1936	1937	1938
Complaints Received	21	12	35
Nuisances Detected	51	48	67
Nuisances Abated	45	48	67
Houses and Premises Inspected	342	308	327
Houses and Premises Re-Inspected	51	36	67
Houses and Premises Repaired	45	84	67
Notices Issued (Preliminary)	51	84	54
Notices Issued (Statutory)	13	10	16
Notices Issued (Statutory) under 1936 P.H. Act	0	36	32
Notices Still Outstanding	6	20	5
Notices Complied with under Order of the Magistrates	0	0	0

Water Supply.

The Water Supply of the Town is chiefly from the Corporation's own property at Dodford, where there is a deep spring in the Middle Lias, this is a pure supply, though somewhat hard. In the early part

of the winter steps were taken to increase the Dodford supply, and in December as doubts arose as to some possible contamination of the supply, steps were at once taken to guard the Town in every way, and in a short time the analysis of the water proved quite satisfactory, the possibility having been that some land surface water had got into the supply from where the work for increasing the water was being carried out; with this exception there was no trouble during the year.

There is also a Private Supply of water from Borough Hill, this water is satisfactory and pure; a few of the out-lying houses outside the Town are supplied by wells on their own premises. The following table gives a few details:

Houses supplied by the Corporation	1,014
New Connections made during the year	19
Houses removed from Town Supply by demolition ...	3
Houses supplied by the Water Company (about) ...	77
Houses supplied by Pumps and Wells (about) ...	14

Slaughter Houses.

There are four registered Slaughter-houses in the Borough, also a licensed one, as well as the Public Slaughter-house under the Council. All these have been frequently visited, and no complaints have been received; they have been limewashed at the required times. The Butchers are using every endeavour to carry out the Regulations which came into force on January 1st, 1925.

	1925	1926	1939
Registered	4	4	3
Licensed	1	1	1
	5	5	4

Food.

The Food Supply of the Town is good, and the premises where it is stored or exposed for sale satisfactory. No case of food poisoning was reported in the Borough during the year.

The following was found to be unfit for food; it was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

Beef	4,300 lbs.
Pork	1,320 lbs.
Mutton	210 lbs.
Fish	170 lbs.

The Ministry of Health has asked for the following table to be filled up, and the Sanitary Inspector has given me the details given below, which he believes to be as correct as it is possible for him to arrive at.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, Cows excluding Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	474	40	2464	2524
Number Inspected	362	31	1832	1831
All diseases except Tuberculosis ...				
Whole carcases condemned ...	Nil Nil	Nil	6	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	2·76	—	·327	·27
Tuberculosis only.				
Whole carcases condemned ...	5	Nil	Nil	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	Nil	Nil	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	3·59	—	—	·71

Milk Supply.

All the Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds in the Borough have been kept under careful supervision during the year, and they have been frequently visited and found to be in a satisfactory condition. There are eighteen on the register ; during the year twenty-four samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, and the following reports were made on them ; twenty-two were good, two moderate, and none were bad, this is a very great improvement on the previous year when nine samples were reported bad, a result which neither the Sanitary Inspector nor myself could understand. The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, has involved a closer watch and generally a stricter enforcement of all the conditions of dairying. In all cases of the more serious forms of infectious disease, a careful enquiry and inspection of the milk supply is always made. I heard of no shortage of milk, and no tubercular milking cows came under notice during the year. I believe that on the whole the milk supply of the Town is satisfactory.

Petrol Stores.

There are thirteen Petrol Stores in the Borough, a decrease of one during the year ; these stores are well looked after and every possible care is taken.

Factories Act, 1937.

The Factories Act, 1937, is carried out in the Town in a satisfactory manner: inspections were frequently made during the year, a few cases of defects under Part I of the above Act were noticed, but on attention being drawn to the matter they were at once rectified. There is no underground bakehouse in the Borough, and care has been taken to see that Bakers keep their bakehouses in a properly clean state, and that they are white-washed at the regular periods.

Staff.

The Public Health Officers of the Council are:

G. E. Foster,	Clerk to the Borough Council.
A. R. Darley,	Medical Officer of Health.
J. B. Williams,	Consulting Surveyor.
A. J. Paxman,	Surveyor.
F. Bailey,	Sanitary Inspector.

Of the above five, the first three are part time officers, while Mr. A. J. Paxman, Surveyor, and Mr. F. Bailey, Sanitary Inspector, both give their whole time to the work.

I append the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector in accordance with Article XX (16) of the Local Government Board's General Order of 13th December, 1910.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED R. DARLEY, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Borough of Daventry.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE DAVENTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In submitting for your consideration my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1938, I beg to report as follows :—

W.C's built, 30 ; W.C's re-limewashed 78 ; Unblocked, 19 ; New Pans fixed, 18 ; Flushers repaired, 31 ; New Flushers fixed, 31.

Drains.

Constructed, 15 ; repaired, 16 ; cleared, 19 ; examined and tested, 38.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

During the year, 13 cases of Infectious Disease were reported :— Scarlet Fever, 1 ; Erysipelas, 2 ; Pulmonary Tuberculosis 7 ; Other Tuberculosis, 1 ; Pneumonia, 2.

The case of Scarlet Fever was removed to Staverton Hospital and recovered.

Of the 7 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, five were removed to Rushden Sanatorium, three died and two are still in residence. One case, a married woman, died at home, and one has left the town.

The case of Tuberculosis (other), which was notified in October, was later discharged from Northampton General Hospital, and is now living at home.

Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis which were notified during 1937, and were admitted to Sanatoria, one to Rushden and one to Bournemouth, have since returned home. The one who was at Bournemouth is now at work again, but the one who attended at Rushden has not yet commenced work.

During the year, it was reported that a soldier, whose wife and children lived in the town, had been in contact with a case of Typhoid. This family was kept under observation for some time, but fortunately no cases occurred in the town.

All houses were thoroughly disinfected after the recovery or death of persons from infectious disease. Where death took place from Cancer or Tuberculosis, the bedding was destroyed in each case and compensation paid to the owner if a request was received for payment. Disinfectant and soap was supplied to all cases.

Slaughter Houses and Butcher's Shops.

There are four registered, one licensed, and the Public Slaughter-house in the town. This is the same number as for several years past, but as two of the Butcher's shops are now owned by the same person, one of the registered slaughterhouses has not been used during the year.

The number of animals slaughtered is again less than the previous year, 474 beasts, 40 calves, 2,464 Sheep and Lambs and 2524 Pigs, total for the year being 5,502, against 6,342 for the year 1937.

The majority of the animals slaughtered were of excellent quality, all the shops have up-to-date cold storage plants, and no unsound meat was found being offered for sale.

Humane stunners are used on all animals. The buildings and premises have been generally kept in a satisfactory state and very little cause for complaint has been found.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The number on the register is the same as last year.

Premises have been visited very frequently, and over 40 visits were made at the time of the morning milking.

The premises have generally been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition, and I am very pleased to be able to report a great improvement in the milk sent to the County M.O.H. to be submitted to the Methylene Blue reduction test.

Twenty-four samples were sent in, twenty-two were returned as good and two as moderate.

This gives 91.66% passing the test, against an average of 57.27% for similar milk from the whole of the county for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

The reports received on the samples of milk submitted for test during the past 7 years are as follows :—

Year.	No. of Samples	Good.	Designation. Clean.	Moderate.	Bad.
1932	15	11	—	3	1
1933	12	4	4	3	1
1934	20	19	—	1	—
1935	20	19	—	1	—
1936	24	14	—	9	1
1937	24	15	—	—	9
1938	24	22	—	2	—

Unsound Meat, and other Foods.

All Bakehouses, Fish Shops and Premises where food is prepared for sale have been visited very frequently, and have generally been found to be kept in a cleanly state.

Slaughterhouses have been visited on most slaughtering days, and the following meat and fish have been surrendered and destroyed.

Beef	4,300 lbs.
Pork	1,320 lbs.
Mutton	210 lbs.
Fish	170 lbs.

Further details referring to this will be found in the M.O.H's report.

Petrol Stores.

The number of Petrol Stores in the Town is now 13, one less than last year.

Practically all Petrol is sold from pumps, and the petrol is stored underground. There has been no cause for complaint during the year.

Nuisances.

I have received 35 complaints during the year, and found 67 causes of nuisance requiring attention. Preliminary notices were served in each case, and it was found necessary later to serve thirty-two Statutory Notices, these were complied with, with the exception of 5 which are still outstanding.

House Inspection.

I have accompanied the M.O.H. on several occasions when visiting the various small properties in the Town. In addition I have made frequent visits to all parts of the Town.

Several cases of overcrowding have been relieved during the year, the Council built 4, four-bedroomed houses, each bedroom large enough for 2 adults, others have moved into vacant Council Houses, and still others have moved into larger privately owned Houses.

At the commencement of 1938, 11 houses were overcrowded, six of these have been abated, but 8 new cases have occurred through children attaining the age of 10 years or on account of children being born. There are now 13 cases definitely overcrowded, and the Council are considering building further houses early in 1939 to overcome the trouble.

Three houses were disinfected during the year.

Factories.

I have made frequent visits to the various Factories in the Town, and, with the exception of 5 cases where they had neglected to limewash the premises, and two where the Sanitary conveniences were defective, no cause for complaint was found.

In each case the matter was remedied on the service of a preliminary notice.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the Town. Both have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition and no cause for complaint was found.

Sanitary Dust Bins.

At the end of the year, all houses in the Borough, with the exception of one, had Dust Bins which were approved by the Council.

The majority have Sanitary Iron Bins, but there are still a few which have Oil drums fitted with lids or Wood boxes with metal lids.

Rat Week.

The same procedure was followed during Rat Week as in previous years. Posters were exhibited in shops, clubs, public houses, etc., and copies of the posters were sent to land-owners, and other persons having premises likely to be infested with rats.

The local Chemists made a special display of rat poisons, etc. The Sewage Works, Tip and Council premises were dressed with poison, and tins of Rodine were supplied to anyone asking for it.

Housing Act, 1935.

All persons applying for their cottages to be measured, so that the details can be entered on the rent book, have been supplied with the necessary figures, but there are still a number of Owners who have not entered this detail on their books.

Reconditioning of Houses.

During the year the reconditioning of the 21 houses commenced during 1937 was completed, and work on several more has begun.

Three houses were found to be infested with bugs, and were stoved out with sulphur.

Water.

Samples of Water have been taken at frequent intervals from both the Town Supply and also from the Borough Hill Water Co.

These samples have been forwarded to Messrs. Bostock, Hill & Rigby, to be analysed. All samples were reported as being satisfactory.

Trusting this report will meet with your approval,

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK BAILEY,

Sanitary Inspector,
Borough of Daventry.

TABLE I.

BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises (1)	Number of Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	302	7	0

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY.

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
Want of cleanliness	5	5		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of floors ...				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation } insufficient ... ... / unsuitable or defective / not separate for sexes	2	2		
Offences under the Factories Act.				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)...				
Other offences				
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and WorkshopsTransfer (of Powers) Order, 1921).... ...				
Total	7	7	0	0

31*st May*, 1939. ALFRED R. DARLEY, *Medical Officer of Health.*